

Participant invitation - Information sheet for Young People



INFORMATION SHEET FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

The experience of young people who identify as transgender and have autism

You are being invited to participate in a research study. Before you agree it is important that you understand what taking part would involve. Please take time to read the following information.

Who I am?

My name is Catherine Milne – I am a Trainee Educational Psychologist from the University of East London. As part of my work I am conducting the research you are being invited to participate in.

What is the research?

I am conducting research into the views of young people who identify as transgender or non-binary and have a diagnosis of Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD). I am interested to find out about your experiences, including your experiences of school. My research has been approved by the School of Psychology Research Ethics Committee – this means everyone will stay safe.

Why have you been asked to participate?

You have been invited to participate in my research as someone who fits the kind of young person I am looking for to help me explore the research topic. I am looking to involve young people who have the dual experience of being trans (or non-binary) and having ASD. I want to know what you think – there are no right or wrong answers. You will be treated with respect. You are totally free to decide whether or not to take part and should not feel talked into this.

What will your participation involve?

If you agree to take part you will be asked to agree to this and sign a form. The following is a brief outline of what this would involve:

- You would be interviewed by me – this would be some questions relating to your experience of your gender and ASD. I am interested in your experiences and feelings. The interview will be like having an informal chat.
- The interview would take roughly 30 minutes to 1 hour.
- We would have the interview via the phone or the internet using TEAMS video calling software.
- The interviews will be audio (only sound) recorded (using a Dictaphone) and later typed out and made anonymous so no one could link your answers to your name.
- I will not be able to pay you for participating in our research but your participation would be very valuable in helping to develop understanding of our research topic.

Taking part will be safe and confidential

Your privacy and safety will be respected at all times.

Your name will not be on any written material resulting from the interview or in any write-up of the research.

- You do not have to answer all questions asked and can stop taking part at any time.

What will happen to the information that you provide?

With the information you provide I will:

- Securely store personal contact details on password protected computers that only I have access to.
- Change all names on material collected.
- Potentially show the following people the anonymised (your name will be removed) information collected: my research supervisor (and deputy research supervisor) at university, EPs at the Educational Psychology service and trainee colleagues at university. It may be published in academic journals and I may use some quotes from what you told me, but I will not be using your name.
- Make sure that after the study has been completed the information (including contact details, interview recordings and transcripts) will remain securely on password protected computers that only I have access to. I will delete all the information once I finish the study and potentially publish it. This may happen within the next two or three years.

What if you want to withdraw (this means stop taking part)?

You are free to withdraw from the research study at any time without explaining or anything happening. However, if you withdraw I would still reserve the right to use the material if we have already started exploring your answers.

Contact Details

If you would like further information about my research or have any questions or concerns, please contact me:

- Name: Catherine Milne
- Email: u0526873@uel.ac.uk

If you have any questions or concerns about how the research has been conducted please contact the research supervisor Dr Helena Bunn, School of Psychology, University of East London, Water Lane, London E15 4LZ,

Email: h.bunn@uel.ac.uk

or

Chair of the School of Psychology Research Ethics Sub-committee: Dr Tim Lomas, School of Psychology, University of East London, Water Lane, London E15 4LZ.

(Email: t.lomas@uel.ac.uk)